

Message Text

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ACTION CU-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 /016 W
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P R 101900Z JUL 74
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4595
INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS CARACAS 6329

STATE FOR: CU/CP-CU/ARA

USIA FOR ILA/WILLIAM RODGERS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC VE

SUBJ: NEW YORK SPANISH REPERTORY THEATER

REF: MEXICO 5654

1. GILBERTO ZALDIVAR, DIRECTOR NEW YORK SPANISH REPERTORY THEATER, (NYSRT), CALLED PAO MONDAY EVENING, JULY 8 TO REQUEST POST ASSISTANCE IN CONFIRMING INVITATION FROM SECOND INTERNATIONAL DRAMA FESTIVAL TO BE HELD CARACAS AUGUST -1-15.
 2. ZALDIVAR EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT HIS GROUP WAS BEING "DISINVITED", AT LEAST IN PART AS RESULT OF LARGE NUMBER OF PERFORMING ROUPS FROM SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. HE HAD APPARENTLY RECEIVED IMPRESSION OVER TELEPHONE FROM THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE THAT GROUPS FROM SOCIALIST COUNTRIES WERE BEING PREFERRED BECAUSE THEY HAD "OFFICIAL" STATUS. HE ASKED IF WE COULD DEMONSTRATE OUR "OFFICIAL" INTEREST BY APPROACHING ORGANIZERS TO CLARIFY THE SITUATION RE: NYSRT.
 3. TUESDAY AFTERNOON CAO JOYCE CALLED ON ORGANIZING COMMITTEE'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CARLOS GIMENEZ. GIMENEZ EXPLAINED THAT MANY GROUPS FROM NUMEROUS COUNTRIES HAD BEEN CANVASED AS TO THE POSSIBILITY OF APPEARING IN FESTIVAL. HOWEVER, THIS WAS NOT A FORMAL INVITATION. FOLLOWING INITIAL SURVEY, ONE GROUP
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FROM EACH COUNTRY WAS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE.

4. ONLY EXCEPTION WAS THE UNITED STATES FROM WHICH TWO GROUPS WERE SELECTED: MANHATTAN PROJECT AND LA MAMMA. THIRD GROUP, TEATRO 60, FROM PUERTO RICO HAS ALSO BEEN CHOSEN, BUT COMMITTEE DID NOT ADVERT TO THIS.

5. MOREOVER, ALMOST EVERY OTHER GROUP IS FINANCED BY ITS GOVERNMENT. TWO AMERICAN ENSEMBLES ARE BEING FINANCED AT LEAST IN PART BY VENEZUELAN ORGANIZERS.

6. FINAL CONSIDERATION IS THAT NUMBER OF THEATERS IN CARACAS IS LIMITED AND SCHEDULE FOR PERFORMANCES IS COMPLETE, AND IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO INSERT ADDITIONAL COMPANY.

7. GIMENEZ TOLD US THAT IF A SCHEDULED GROUP CANCELS AN OFFICIAL INVITATION WILL BE EXTENDED TO ZALDIVAR.

8. FYI COMMITTEE SAID THAT ZALDIVAR HAD STATED THAT DEPARTMENT OFFERED PAY TRANSPORTATION FOR NYSRT. IS THIS CORRECT?

9. PLEASE PASS CONTENTS THIS MESSAGE TO ZALDIVAR.
MCCLINTOCK

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